

TOWN OF WILTON

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES

Date: July 29, 2013
Time: 6:30 P.M.
Place: Town Office

Present: Chairman Daniel E. Donovan, III, Selectmen William F. Condra and Richard E. Swanson, and Recording Secretary Pamela Atwood.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Chairman Donovan.

Chief Hautanen was first on the agenda. He was here to seek the Board's approval to purchase a taser for use by the Police Department. Brent gave the Board the history of the research he has done with respect to considering a taser purchase. He detailed the benefits of having a taser. He feels it is a necessary tool for his officers. A number of officers from the Wilton Police Department attended the meeting to show their support of the purchase.

A presentation was given by Todd Faulkner, Chief of Police for the town of Hinsdale, NH. Hinsdale is a comparable sized town to Wilton. They have had tasers since 2002. There was a lengthy discussion after Todd's presentation; the Selectmen asked many questions. Chairman Donovan stated that he recognizes their value, but has concerns with their utilization. He spoke of unexpected deaths of people who have been tased, and asked Todd how many deployments constituted the 97% he referred to. Todd answered 4 to 5 deployments per year. Todd summed up his presentation with some examples of real life cases; and the fact that an insurance policy is included with a purchase from Taser International Inc.

Chairman Donovan referred to a case in Brattleboro Vermont. Chief

Faulkner was aware of the case and he spoke of the video used for this case. Chairman Donovan is curious about this case and suggested that Todd look up the summary judgment for the case.

Selectman Condra asked if the State Legislature had weighed in on the use of tasers, stating that he is concerned about being asked to accept a federally sponsored program; he would like to have the project approved at the State level.

Selectman Swanson noted that he was impressed by the presence of officers at this meeting. He stressed the importance of training if Wilton goes for it. Next, he asked about the incidence of towns being sued due to the use of tasers. Chief Faulkner said that lots of towns have been sued but they have yet to lose a case because of good training.

Chairman Donovan noted that the topic had gone over its' allotted time and that the Board was not in a position to make a decision at this point.

Motion: Chairman Donovan made a motion to table the topic until the next meeting to give them time to review and benefit from further input from Chief Hautanen. Selectman Condra seconded the motion.

Selectman Swanson stated that he wants to hear the other point of view and that he is uncomfortable with the fact that Todd is getting paid by Taser and giving the presentation. The other Board members agreed about hearing other points of view. The discussion ended with Chairman Donovan giving some history of the Police Department and his involvement, noting that he is not insensitive to the fact that the Police Officers are at risk and at times there is a waiting period for back up to arrive from Milford or the State Police. The Board thanked Chief Faulkner and Chief Hautanen.

Chairman Donovan asked for a nonpublic session at 7:40 P.M. per

RSA 91-A:3,II (a). Selectman Condra seconded the motion and a unanimous vote followed.

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:55 P.M.

Jane Farrell was next on the agenda. The Selectmen wanted to discuss the upcoming 457 retirement plan and the eligibility of the part time employees in her department.

Steve Elliott stated that due to the meeting being way behind schedule he would return in two weeks to discuss the compactor.

Members of the Community Center Committee were in attendance; Joanna Eckstrom, Alison Meltzer and Nicole Colvin-Griffin. Joanna spoke about potential buyers for the church, stating that some developers might be interested in the property. Chairman Donovan told of the conversation he had with the Diocese Property Manager, Paul Harrington. There was a discussion about the articles of agreement. Chairman Donovan asked the group if they have something to make this project viable; stating that a major endowment would be needed, or it is a dead issue. The group agreed that they have no major endowments. After further discussion Chairman Donovan asked that the committee talk to Paul Harrington. Alison agreed and will notify the Selectmen after she talks to Mr. Harrington.

Next on the agenda was Dawn Tuomala along with Jim Quinn to discuss the Riverwalk subdivision off of Proctor Road. Dawn gave the history of the subdivision stating that the road was paved with the base coat last year so it has wintered over one year. She is before the Board to ask to have the road approved. She stated that the engineer would prefer to see some of the houses built before the finish coat is applied to the road. They would like to start building some houses now. Jim Quinn presented the Board with the impact fee check in the agreed upon amount of \$10,400, noting that \$46,000 had been spent to

straighten the road out at the entrance to the development. A \$20,000 bond will be put up for completion of the road. Mr. Quinn presented a sample of the bond paperwork for the Boards review.

Motion: Chairman Donovan made a motion to forward the sample bond to Attorney Little for his review. The motion was seconded by Selectman Condra followed by a unanimous vote.

Treasurer Jerry Greene attended the meeting to give the Selectmen an update of his research into the banking options available for the Town. The Board thanked Jerry for his time and gave him their support in whatever decision he makes.

Selectman Swanson updated the Board with the discussions from the Energy Committee's recent meeting.

The minutes were approved.

This week's manifests were signed.

Payroll for period ending 7/27/13 was approved.

One (1) Application for Reimbursement to Towns and Cities in Which Federal and State Forest Land is situated was signed.

Three (3) Pole Licenses were signed.

Chairman Donovan spoke about the LGC HealthTrust surplus distribution. He also gave an update on the Fire Station renovation.

Chairman Donovan noted that he had spoken to Matt Allen regarding the ongoing situation on Island Street.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 P.M. by Chairman Donovan, seconded by Selectman Condra followed by a vote with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted;

Pamela L. Atwood,
Recording Secretary